

Techniques of **HARASSMENT**



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How the Underdog Gets Justice

by VICTOR SANTORO



DESERT PUBLICATIONS

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by
Victor Santoro

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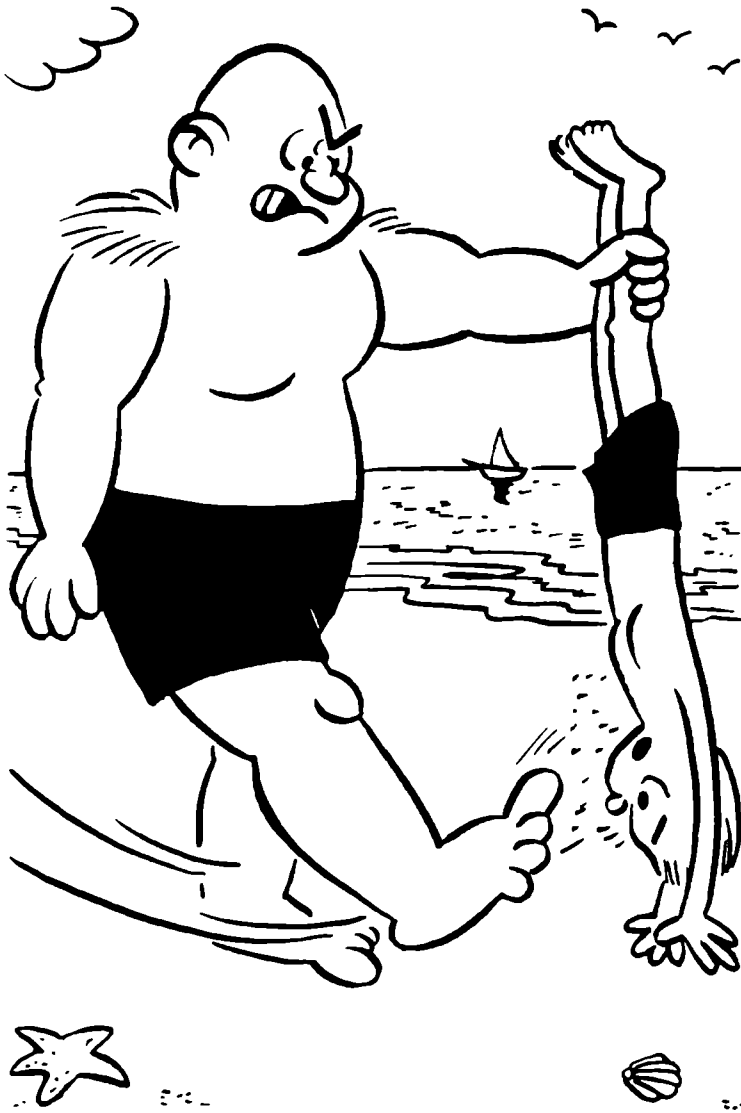
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Table of Contents

Contents	Page
Introduction	1
Selecting Your Target	5
The Basic Strategies.	7
The Need for Accurate Information	9
Let Your Fingers Do the Walking	11
Special Telephone Techniques.	13
Additional Telephone Techniques.	17
Call Western Union	19
Green Stamps, Etc.	23
Handbills and Circulars	27
On the Job	29
House for Sale.	31
Magazine and Book Clubs	33
Cutting Off Utilities	35
Playing Post Office	39
The Neighbors.	43
Hitting Below the Belt.	45
Murder, Inc.	47
High Risk Techniques	49
The Psychological Aspect	53
The Other Side of the Fence	55
Trouble with the Law	57
Your Target Is Vulnerable	61
Planning it Out	65
Notes on Sources.	69

**Cartoons by
JORDAN L. COOPER**

Introduction



All of us have, at one time or another, wanted to “get” someone. For various motives, such as jealousy, revenge, the desire to right some injustice, we wish to see someone harmed or at least to be made to feel extremely uncomfortable. If we act impulsively, in a fit of anger, we may wind up in jail facing a charge of assault or even murder. Few situations justify killing someone. Fortunately most of us do not lose our tempers easily. It’s a lot safer that way.

Often, too, the situation doesn't look the same to us the next morning, after we've cooled off and had a chance to think calmly and rationally about it. We're more inclined to "forgive and forget".

But what if we can't "forgive and forget"? What then?

First, remember that while generally it is a good thing to keep your temper you are under no moral obligation to swallow anything and everything that someone tries to shove at you. You don't have to turn the other cheek while someone keeps on slapping you.

In many cases the law will protect you. There are libel laws, cease and desist orders, small claims courts, etc. Sometimes these will work for you. Sometimes they won't. When they don't you are on your own.

Two examples will adequately illustrate the type of situation which forms the basis for discussion:

You are new on the job. Your boss accuses you of theft. You are innocent. You can prove it and you do. Your boss is not man enough to admit he was wrong and to apologize to you. He fires you instead. There is no union to stick up for you. A lawyer would be expensive and you're not sure what he could do for you. Besides you are fed up and no longer want the job.

You've just rented an apartment. You've paid a month's rent in advance and a month's security deposit. When you go to move in you see that the apartment has been left in such a filthy condition that you can't live there. The landlord refuses to clean it up and he won't give you your money back, even though you did not move in. You go to small claims court and get a summons for him. You take time off without pay from your job but the landlord does not appear for the hearing. A new date is set but he still doesn't show and you've lost more time from your job. Under pressure from the court he does appear at the third hearing but you only get your security deposit back, not the month's rent. You're also out the pay you lost during your time in court.

Both of these cases are real cases that happened to real people. If something such as this had happened to you you'd be justifiably angry. You would have been badly treated by someone who knew fully what he was doing. In both cases

the law was not much help. You'd want some sort of satisfaction. You would not, if you were wise, do anything extreme and illegal that could get you into worse trouble but you'd want to cause someone as much trouble as he'd caused you. What could you do?

The answer is harassment. Not anything as crude as threatening phone calls or slashing his tires. Nothing that will cause you as much trouble as it causes it him. Instead, a carefully planned and systematic program of harassment which will disrupt his life while exposing you to no risks.

Most of the techniques outlined here have been used successfully. A few have not been tried but are a logical outgrowth of ones that have been. Most are not illegal. The ones that are, like most of the techniques in here, expose you to no risk at all.

Harassment is a subject that has received little study. Most people are inclined to take direct and violent action or to do nothing at all. Harassment is the middle road, for situations that are not all that serious and yet leave you with the feeling that you must do something.

One recent use of harassment that made the front page is that employed by some members of the Committee to Re-elect the President during what has come to be known as the Watergate affair. These agents of CREEP traveled around the country stalking Democratic candidates. They phoned in to cancel their hotel reservations, ordered pizzas to be delivered to them, made up offensive bumper stickers to embarrass the Democrats at their rallies, etc. They were effective far out of proportion to their number.

Selecting Your Target



Whom do you hit? This is a very important question. You can't go around indiscriminately harassing anyone who rubs you the wrong way. You'd spend your entire life settling grudges and this is a pretty negative way to live. There are two questions you should ask yourself before starting on any program of harassment:

Would most of your friends feel that you had a justifiable complaint?

Is it worth the effort?

If the answer to both of these questions is yes, then you probably have good reason to begin. If, however, the answer to the first one is no, then you should think very carefully about the whole thing. There are two sides to every story and what might seem like a great injustice to you might seem to be an unfortunate misunderstanding to a third person.

Assuming you have decided to hit someone the next question is when. The timing can be very important. As a general rule, it is a good idea to let enough time go by so that he forgets about you, or forgets that you are mad at him. Don't be impatient. Remember; revenge is the only dish that tastes best when eaten cold.

Here are a few examples to help you judge the timing. If your complaining is against a landlord, you can probably act within a few weeks or months. He probably has other unhappy tenants and he knows it. If you have been fired from a job, don't act right away. It might be wise to wait a year or two. A boss always thinks first of disgruntled employees or ex-employees.

If your target is unaware that you have any conflict with him, you can act immediately. One such target would be the company spy who befriends his fellow workers and then tells the boss whatever derogatory information he has been able to discover about them. In that case it is important not to confront him. Even if what he has told the boss threatens your job don't let him know that you know. Keep up a friendly front to him and in fact exploit him to find out information which you can use in your planning.

A good general rule to follow is to give your target time enough to antagonize several other people before you act. This will increase the number of suspects when things start happening to him. If he is as unpleasant a person as you think he is you can be sure that many other people will share your feelings about him.

The Basic Strategies



The fundamental idea is to cause as much harassment and discomfort to your target as possible without being discovered. You can see, from studying the techniques, that if your target finds out who is harassing him he can do the same things to you. If that happens the best defense for you is to leave town. There is also the possibility of a civil suit.

There are several basic strategic principles to follow for best results:

PREPARE YOUR PLAN AS CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY AS POSSIBLE BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR MOVE.

Put it in writing in the form of a chart. Get a large piece of paper and lay out your planned moves in chronological order, by date. By using this basic framework to coordinate the various parts of your plan you will avoid your plans conflicting with each other.

GET ALL THE NECESSARY INFORMATION ON YOUR TARGET BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR FIRST MOVE

You will need to know many things about your target as you develop your plan, such as his home and business addresses, phone numbers, daily schedule, the make, color, and license number of his car, etc.

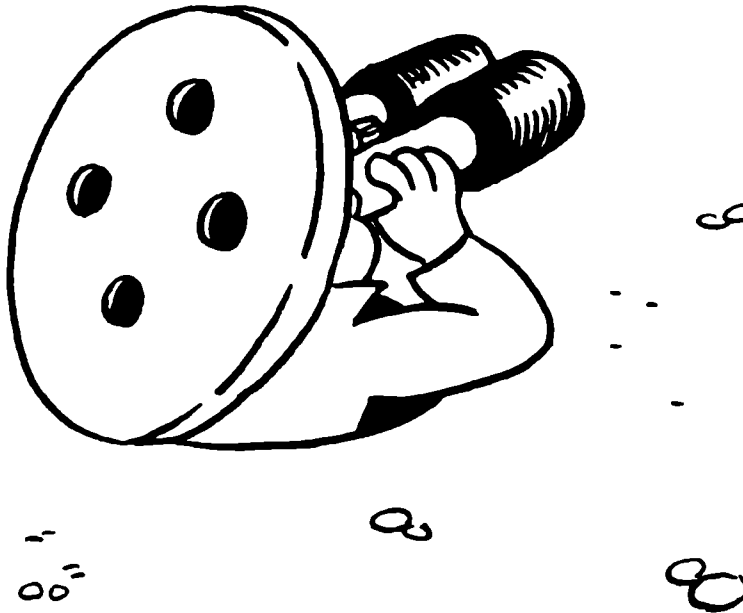
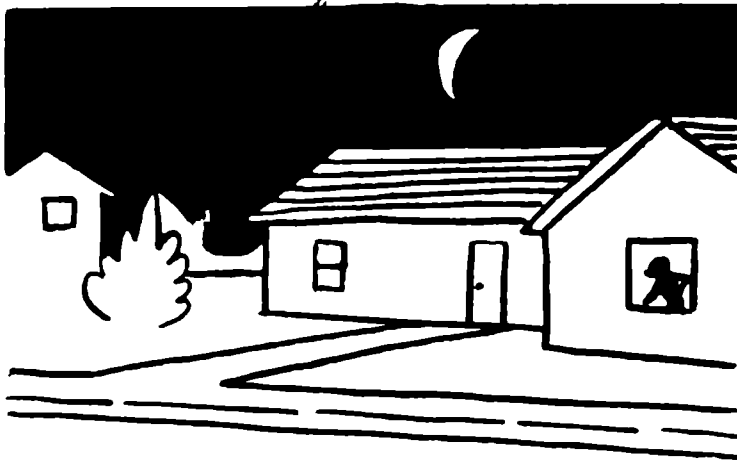
AVOID ALL PERSONAL CONTACT WITH HIM WHILE CARRYING OUT YOUR PLAN

Don't come near his home or job. Don't call him at home. He might recognize your face or your voice and start putting two and two together. If you must call his home to see if he answers, do it from a public phone. If you must approach his address to find out whether he lives in a house or apartment, do it well before you start your plan moving.

USE THE MULTIPLIER EFFECT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

This means, in plain language, let others do the work for you. That way, you can set in motion a much greater effect on his life than if you did it all by yourself. For example, don't annoy him by constantly phoning him at all hours. You'll only tie up your time for those hours. A classified ad in a newspaper will cause other people to phone him. As you will see from the following chapters, there are many ways in which one phone call from you can tie up his time for many hours and cause him a degree of harassment entirely out of proportion to your effort.

The Need For Accurate Information



This deserves a chapter all to itself. When planning your offensive you will see that you need certain information about your target in order to carry out each phase of your plan. You should get all the information you can on your target before you make your first move. Since obtaining some of the information may expose you to some personal contact, it is essential that you do this when nothing has yet happened to make him suspicious.

The basic data you need are: name, home and business addresses, home and business phones, type of car he drives, and its color and license number. Often you can find out what you need to know about his car just by driving by his house.

Almost as important are the answers to these questions:

Does he own his own home or live in an apartment?

Is he self-employed or does he work for someone else?

What kind of work does he do?

What is his position in the company?

What hours does he work?

Does he spend most of his off-duty time at home?

Is he married? Children?

Does he travel much? Does he make out of town business trips? When? By car? Plane?

What airline? When? How often? If you know this you can have fun with his reservations.

In what hotels does he stay? You can send him telegrams there.

What are his hobbies? When does he go on vacation?

Does he own a boat? Where does he keep it?

Every bit of information you can get about him opens him up to further harassment if you have the basic know-how and the imagination to make use of it.

Let Your Fingers Do The Walking



The yellow pages of your telephone directory will be your basic source of goods and services by phone. You can impersonate your target over the phone and have a surprising variety and quantity of things delivered to his house or place of business. The basic technique is to pick up the yellow pages, start at "A" and work your way through to "Z".

One caution is necessary, however. Do not send the police or fire department to his house. This is strictly illegal and it could get an innocent person killed. Too, most police and fire departments tape their calls and you don't want your voice on tape.

Some examples from the phone book are:

Phone a liquor store late at night, shortly before it closes. Tell them you are Mr.— and that you're having a party. A radio turned up loudly in the room will make this more credible. Tell the clerk you're running out of booze and order a couple of cases. If the clerk shows any reluctance at all or seems hesitant, offer him a ten dollar tip if he can deliver within fifteen minutes to a half hour. If your target goes to bed early this will be doubly effective in disturbing him.

Look for a florist who takes telephone orders and charges them to your telephone bill. Tell him you are Mr.— and order a bouquet (an expensive one, of course) to be delivered to his wife while he is away at work. In order to ensure that the wife will accept it, order it to be inscribed on the card; "To my loving wife on a very special occasion." This will overcome awkward details such as not knowing his wife's name or birthday. Have it charged to his phone bill, of course.

If you know where he parks his car, phone an auto repair service and have it towed away.

Phone contractors, swimming pool companies, exterminators, etc. to stop by and give him estimates. You can see why it is important to know when he'll be home.

This is easier than it seems. There is no problem to impersonating your target over the phone when ordering goods and services in his name. The people you will call probably do not know your target and in any event, one voice on the phone sounds pretty much like any other.

Special Telephone Techniques



If you normally work nights and get off late, or if you're on your way home from a party late at night you can disturb his sleep by dialing his number from a phone booth and hanging up as soon as he answers. Do not ever call him from your home, as it is possible nowadays to trace a call in seconds. Do not ever say anything when calling him — you don't want to risk him taping your voice. He might have a tape recorder hooked up after a few days of this treatment.

When calling for salesmen to come out and give demonstrations or estimates, try to get them to come at unusual hours. Tell them that you work evenings and you would appreciate it if they could come after ten p.m. You can do the reverse of this too. If you know that your target sleeps normally until eight or nine in the morning you can request that the representative come at seven. If he wants to phone before coming that's fine too.

If you don't know what car your target drives call his home when he is away and tell his wife or other relative that you represent a consumer research organization and that you are conducting a survey on car owner satisfaction and frequency of repairs. Ask for the car make, year, color, and license plate number. Ask appropriate questions about the car's repair history in order to avoid arousing suspicion. Do this several weeks before starting your program so that no suspicion will be attached to your call and there will be no risk attached. With luck, the incident will be forgotten by the time the action starts. If there is any chance of your voice being recognized have a confederate whom you trust implicitly make the call.

One good trick is to look in a swinger's magazine for homosexual prostitutes. These are usually advertised as "masseurs". Some of them make house calls. Send a few to his house. For an interesting variation, give one or two the address of his next door neighbor. If the "masseur" is effeminate in appearance or manner the neighbor will start to have horrible suspicions about the man next door when a gay boy rings his bell and asks for him.

Another good one is to have a confederate phone your target from a phone booth when he is home and ask for his wife. Your confederate should slur his speech as if he were drunk and say he is calling from a bar. A transistor radio playing loudly in the booth will help the effect. When the target asks what the call is about your friend can tell him that he saw his wife's name written on the toilet wall. If you have a number of friends you can trust not to shoot their mouths off you can pull this several times and have your target really believing that someone has been going around writing

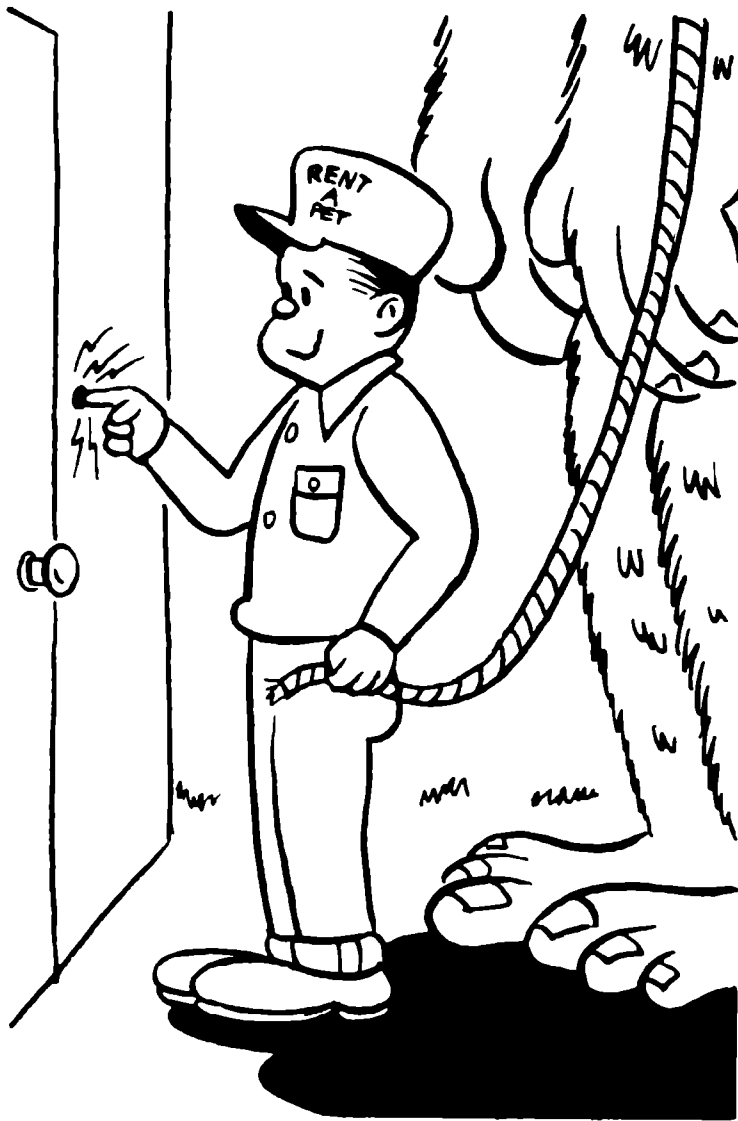
his wife's name and number on toilet walls. There is no point in making the rounds of bars and actually doing so, however, since hardly anyone calls numbers written on toilet walls. The multiplier effect would not work in this case.

If your target has an unlisted number it will significantly alter your plans. There are several ways to find out his number. One is to have a very good friend who works for the phone company do it for you. If you have no such friend you might be able to find it out from his place of work. If you work for the same company it is easier yet. If you don't you can phone his company one day when he is absent or out to lunch and say that you are the delivery supervisor for a piano dealer and that you would like to have his home number in order to find out when you can deliver the piano. You can tell the person to whom you are speaking that a clerk in your office forgot to type it on the order form and that you'd like to be able to check with the target's wife regarding the delivery. There are all sorts of variations possible on this theme. To give the situation some urgency, you can tell them that you have a load of concrete for his swimming pool or driveway and that you must get to his house before it sets. One of these stories will usually work, if you are calling a private company. If your target works for a government agency, however, don't even try this. They have a policy of not disclosing their employee's addresses or phone numbers and you won't get anything from them without a court order.

Another way to get his phone number if you know where he lives is to have a friend gain access to the house by posing as a salesman, census taker, repair man, etc. and reading it off the telephone dial.

Yet another way is for your confederate to pose as a salesman and tell the target's wife that he would like to demonstrate his product only when she and her husband are both home and that if she will give him the phone number he'll call back in the evening to arrange a time.

Additional Telephone Techniques



If you know that your target is being unfaithful to his wife you can have a confederate inform her by phone. One particularly effective way can be used if you know the time and place of the adulterous rendezvous:

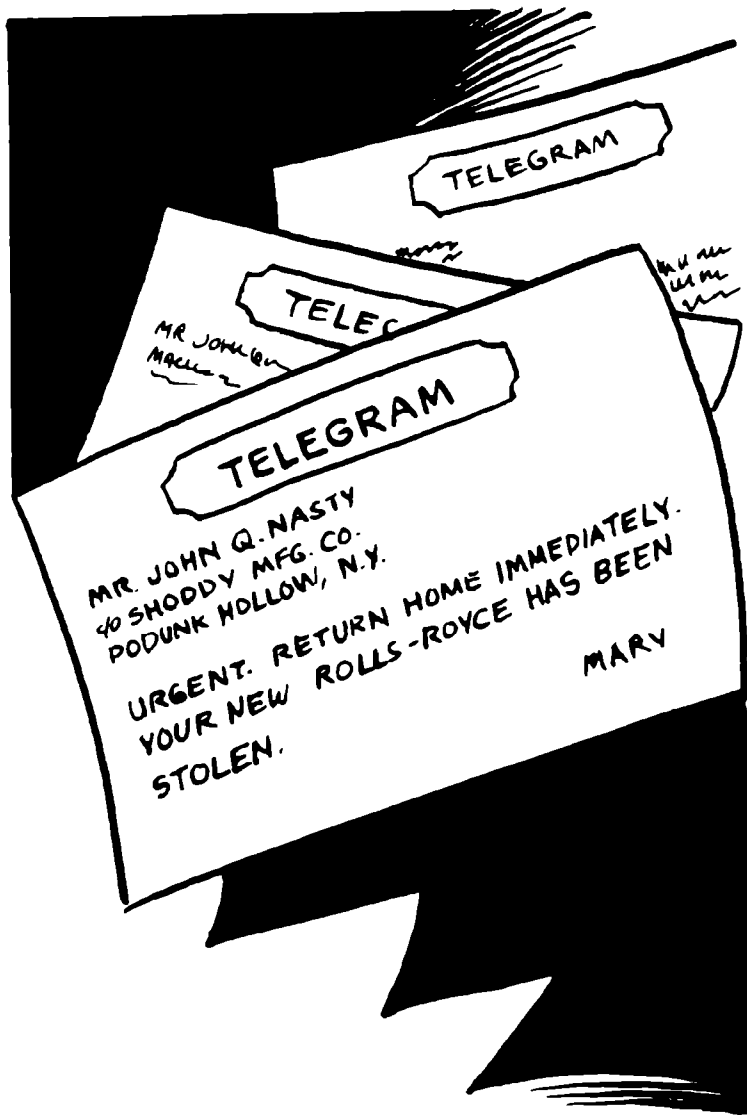
“Hello, Mrs. Smith, Your husband told you he was going to be working late tonight but if you call his office you won’t be able to get him. If you go to the XYZ Motel, however,

you'll be able to see him if he and his roommate are not too busy."

You can also phone a famous crime figure, or a militant and denounce and insult him. This could prove to be at least embarrassing for the person whom you impersonate when making the call. A variation on this theme is discussed in the chapter on the use of the telegraph.

One additional resource the yellow pages lists is rental agencies. It is too easy to let your mind be channeled into looking only for companies with things to sell. Rental agencies will deliver appliances and furniture, as well as garden equipment and just about anything else you can buy.

Call Western Union



A remarkable number of things can be done by telegram. It is even easier to use Western Union in your plans than many other media because, 1. they are fast acting, and 2. they accept messages over the phone and charge them to your phone bill.

Some applications are:

Send Candygrams to all of your target's business associates and/or friends in his name and of course charge it to his

phone bill. A nice twist is to charge it to his company's bill if he works for someone else. He will already be busy enough explaining phone calls, missing shipments, etc.

The day after he goes out of town, send a telegram to his boss saying something like this: "Have found better offer in Seattle. Sorry to leave you but it was an offer I couldn't refuse. Please send my final check to 1234 South 56th St. Seattle."

Send telegrams to various companies with whom he does business, cancelling shipments, ordering various items, or demanding payment of nonexistent shipments.

Send telegrams to his principle customers to inform them that the company has gone bankrupt. It will be doubly effective if you sign these "John Smith, President", even if he is only the janitor. In fact, giving him a false title will enhance the effect both on the accounts and on his boss, when he gets the bill.

If your target goes out of town on business you can send a wire to his hotel or the first company he visits, addressed to him and purportedly coming from his boss, telling him to come home immediately because his presence is urgently required.

Send wires changing or cancelling his hotel reservations.

If he owns his own business or is an officer of the company for which he works, send telegrams at night to some of the employees telling them not to report for work for whatever reason seems appropriate. (bankruptcy, vacation, layoff, fire, etc.)

At Christmas, send all of his employees a turkey by Western Union. One phone call will do it — Western Union will buy the turkeys, greeting cards, and will deliver them. They will also charge them to his phone bill.

It does not matter whether your target has an unlisted number or has his phone disconnected — you can still zap him by wire.

An additional technique you can use when sending telegrams is to send one in your target's name to the leader of a militant group in the area stating that you have evidence against him and will denounce him to the authorities the next day. This may provoke a reprisal.

Another way to foul him up by wire is to send a slanderous telegram to one of his friends or business associates. Some examples:

“Your employee Bill Jones is a homosexual. Suggest you fire him.”

“Your employee Bill Jones has been spreading stories that you are a homosexual. Fire him.”

“Saw your wife at the XYZ Motel with another man. Sorry to be the one to break the news.”

“Your employee Bill Jones told me that he saw your wife at the XYZ motel with another man. Check it out for your own sake.”

Green Stamps, Etc.



An excellent way to use the multiplier effect is through classified ads. Most newspapers accept classified ads over the phone — you don't have to go to the office in person. This ensures your protection. They either bill the customer direct or charge it to his phone bill. This means it costs you only the price of the phone call to place a classified ad in your target's name.

The following trick was pulled very successfully several years ago. It tied up the target's phone for several days. This was particularly disturbing because it was a business phone.

Place a classified ad that reads this way:

GREEN STAMPS FREE

Fifty thousand Green Stamps absolutely free.

Phone 123-4567

That's all. Callers will be tying up his phone day and night. If it is a business phone he is particularly vulnerable. He will miss important business calls and there is nothing he can do about it except to refuse to pay for the ad. A businessman cannot have his number changed to an unlisted one. He cannot have his phone temporarily disconnected. In any event you'll do that for him but that's in another chapter.

If you choose to list his home number in the Green Stamps ad it might be helpful to add another line: "Call after ten p.m." It will cost a bit more but you're not paying for it.

If your target is an employee rather than in business for himself you can hit him at work by listing his name in the ad: "Ask for Mr.—". After a few calls his boss will be asking him for an explanation. More explanation will be required if you have the newspaper bill his company.

There are many variations possible on this theme in order to run several ads at once and generate the maximum amount of calls to him. Keep in mind that if you hit his home phone he will have it changed or disconnected after a few days so you want to hit him as hard as possible while you have the chance. Free decals, samples, etc. are various possibilities. A little imagination will suggest more to you. Whatever you do keep in mind that it is important to avoid making the ad seem like a "Come-on" to a sales pitch. If that happens a lot fewer people will respond.

Another use of the classified ad should be held in reserve until your target has had his number disconnected or changed. It reads as follows:

WE PAY FOR RECYCLABLE CANS

“Bring your beer and soda cans and get ten cents apiece for them. Bring your bottles to be recycled and we will pay twenty-five cents each. Old tires one dollar.”

This works best when you list a business address. There are two ways you can work it, however. One is to have people respond during business hours. Another is to state in the ad that if they come after business hours or on a weekend they are to deposit the recyclables in a designated spot (loading dock, parking lot, etc.) and leave a list of the items with their name and address in the mail slot or under the door and that a check would be mailed to them.

This method is also useful if your target is so disturbed by the harassment that he decides to go away for several days to get away from the delivery men, phone calls, etc. With the proper wording, you can arrange it so that when he comes home he will find his carport piled high with garbage.

Handbills And Circulars



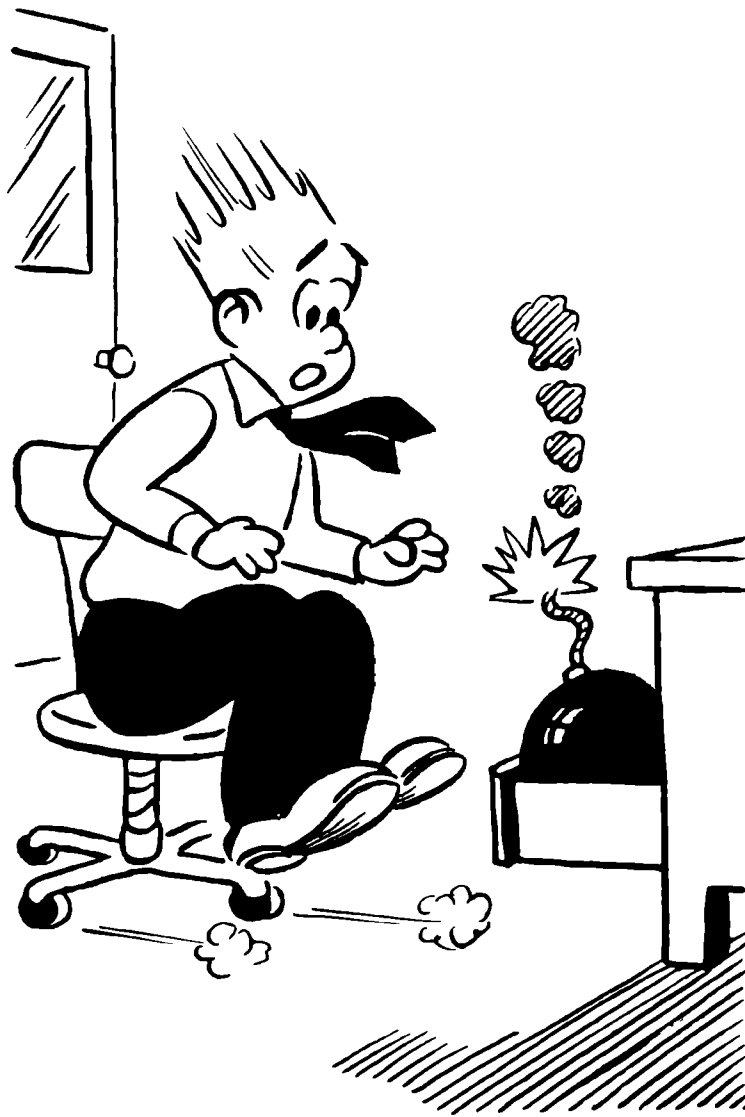
There is one technique upon which you can fall back after your target has had his phone disconnected and the newspapers no longer take classified ads in his name. It requires access to a printing press or a duplicator. A Xerox will do fine.

The main idea is to print up advertisements for recyclables. For variety you can include a coupon at the bottom

of the sheet for listing the contributor's name, address, the items brought in, their cash value (at ten cents per beer can this can add up to quite a bit) and whatever else seems appropriate to put on a coupon. Then print up a thousand of them and distribute them to every store in town. Put some in every public place you can think of. Try the public library. Don't ask permission — just lay a few on each table and counter. Put them by the cash register in luncheonettes. It's easy to get the owner's permission if you tell him it is for a worthy cause — ecology.

If you cannot duplicate these handbills yourself you will have to pay to have it done. It will cost quite a few dollars. A duplicating shop will do it for you at the least cost but don't make the mistake of going there yourself. Have a friend you can trust handle the transaction and have him pay for it in cash. Checks leave a trail and make it difficult to use an assumed name. You have to show a driver's license or other solid identification. Master Charge carries the same problem with it. Nobody questions cash on the barrelhead.

On The Job



One line of attack that you may be tempted to use is to cause trouble for your target on his job, if he is an employee and not self-employed. There are several ways of doing this.

One is to arrange for a series of phone calls to him on the job as outlined in a previous chapter.

Another way is to call his boss and tell him you are Mr. Smith from another company or an employment agency and that you are checking on how long he has worked there.

Yet another way is to call as a representative of a credit agency and ask if there are any garnishes on your target's pay. Or you could be checking his credit because your target is trying to purchase something beyond his means.

All of the above will create doubts about the target in the mind of his boss and this can lead to some very serious consequences for your target. Even if he manages to convince his boss that someone is trying to "get" him the target will still not have peace of mind. He will be gripped by fear of a nameless foe striking at him out of the shadows and disappearing before he can be seen. He will certainly lose a few nights' sleep over this, which is just as well, as he will then be up to answer the constantly ringing phone.

The more information you have about your target the better. If you know precisely what his job is, so much can be done based upon that information. You can impair him directly in his job.

For example, if he is a shipping clerk, you can phone several truckers and ask them to send a truck to pick up a shipment at his company. You could also call several truck lines and ask if they have shipments for his company. If they do, tell them to put them in storage and not to deliver them because (a) the plant is closing for vacation, or (b) the company has gone bankrupt. When you do this, make sure you give his name. As an extra twist, you might tell the official at the trucking company that if there are any questions he should call Mr.——, his boss.

House For Sale



One of the most productive ways of using the multiplier effect is put your target's house up for sale. This seems like a simple trick but it has so many subtleties and ramifications that analyzing them will take up a chapter.

Strangely enough the fact that your target does or does not own a house is of little importance to what you are trying to accomplish. If he does, so much the better — it enhances the effect. But if he does not, don't let that detail

impede you. When you place the classified ad in the paper the people who will phone your target will not know before they phone that he lives only in an apartment.

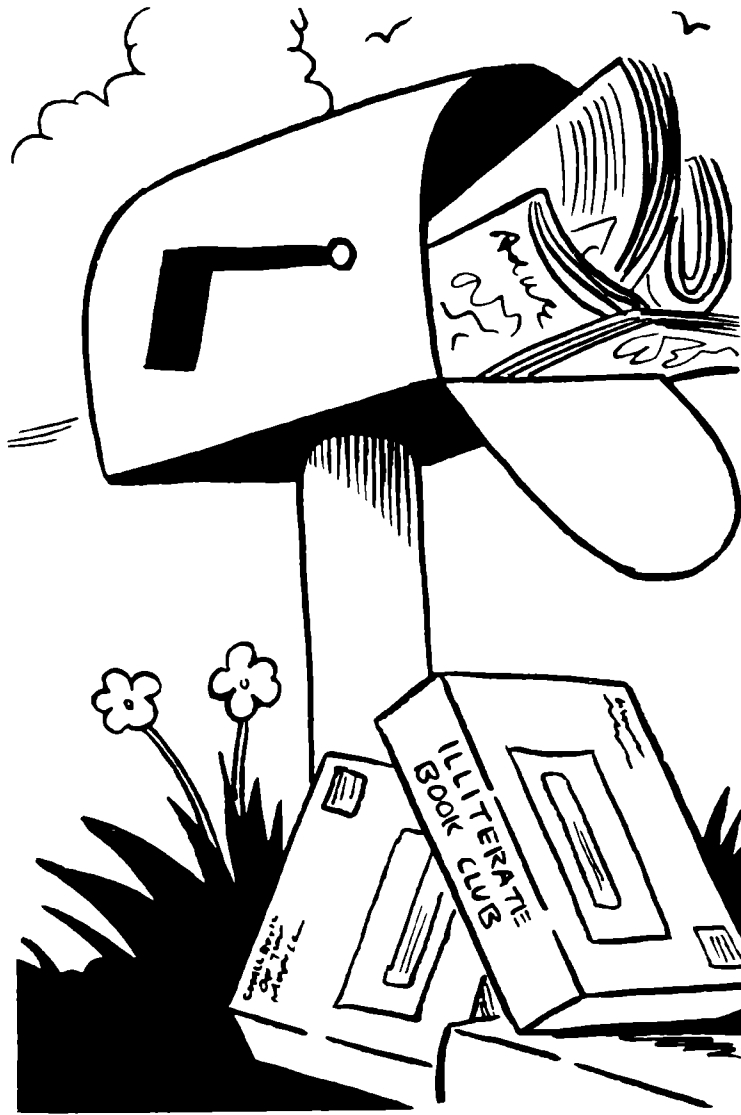
The first step is to “case the joint” to see what sort of a house your target lives in. A good look at the real estate section of the paper will give you an idea of its market value. When you place the ad make sure that the asking price you insert is several thousand dollars below normal in order to attract the maximum number of people who will call. If the target does not own a house it's even easier. Pick any ad for a moderately low priced house out of the paper and drop the price by several thousand.

Do you want to include his phone number or his address in the ad? There are some pros and cons. If he doesn't have a phone (and some people in this country still don't) the choice is out of your hands. If he doesn't own a house except in your imagination then just list his phone. You might specify what time you wish prospective clients to call. In any event, when placing the ad charge it to his phone bill.

Another factor entering into your calculations is the timing. Are you placing the ad before or after you have his utilities cut off? This is important because if you include his phone number and at the same time arrange to have his phone disconnected it will be counterproductive. In that case it would be best to include only your target's address, thereby obliging interested parties to call on him personally. By this time he'll need people to tell his troubles to, anyway.

One effect of listing a house for sale in the paper is that real estate sales agents will be calling your target, or calling on him, as the case may be, in order to persuade him to list with their agency. The low price will insure that he gets their most prompt attention.

Magazine And Book Clubs



One of the most annoying things you can do to a person is to send in magazine and book club subscription cards in his name. This is not as threatening to his security as action on the job but rather it is like the drip-drip-drip of the Chinese water torture.

This requires some preparation. You must start collecting business reply cards some time in advance and in fact mail them four to six weeks before the main body of your plan

goes into motion because it takes that length of time for the subscription to be processed and for the bills to be sent out.

There are several points in this procedure that require some discussion. First is the source of all these cards. Almost all magazines have subscription cards bound in somewhere. Most carry ads for other magazines and for book and record clubs. If you subscribe to a number of magazines there is no problem. If you don't, go to the library. You can probably snatch the cards out of the magazines without anyone objecting. A doctor's or dentist's office usually has a few magazines in the waiting room.

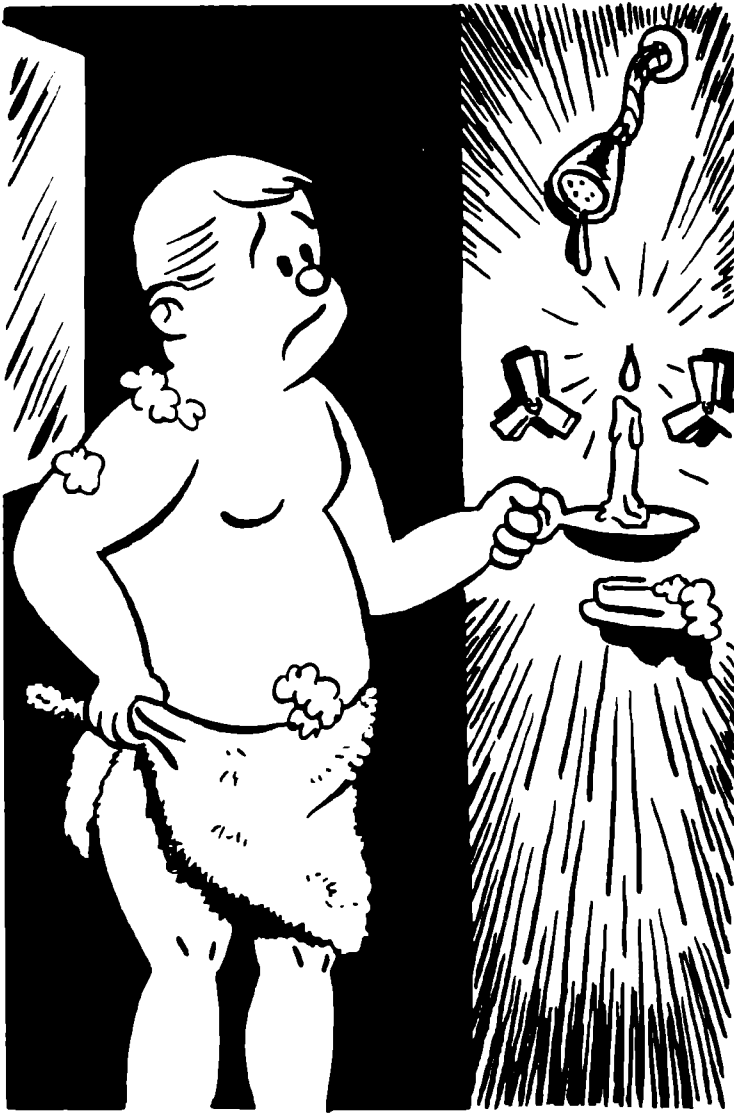
Make sure that what you send in are only postcards. They are handled by hordes of postal workers and you need not worry about fingerprints. When you fill them in be sure to turn the card upside down so that you are writing upside down and backwards. This is an old forger's trick to disguise handwriting. You won't have any worries about the cards being traced to you.

If there are subscription forms that require mailing in an envelope you will have to take the precaution of wearing plastic or rubber gloves.

You will probably want to avoid subscriptions that require that money be sent with the application, since your purpose is to harass your target, not give him a gift. The only exceptions to this are certain sexually oriented publications which could cause him considerable embarrassment if he gets them at home where his wife would see them or at work where his co-workers would see them. Particularly noteworthy are the gay magazines. However this could cost you quite a few dollars to do.

The effect of getting magazines and the bills for them can be very traumatic in this context as each will require a letter to the publisher explaining that he is the victim of a practical joke and requesting that the subscription be cancelled. The publisher may request that the magazines already received be mailed back. In the case of book or record clubs the return of the free introductory records or books will almost certainly be requested and this will cost the target more money and effort. He will be busy enough answering phone calls, sending back deliveries of pizza, food, and liquor, showing real estate agents the house, etc.

Cutting Off Utilities



Imagine being home one day, taking a shower, when the flow of water stops. As you're scraping off the soap which you could not rinse off your wife comes to tell you that the gas furnace won't work. You go to have a look at it but the lights go out on you. Then you pick up the phone to call the utility companies but you don't even get a dial tone. At this point you might feel like a drink of beer from the refrigerator, which should still be cold, but if you were thinking of

water, forget it. Also, what about all that food you've got in the freezer? It might go bad if you don't get the power turned back on soon.

That's what can happen to someone whose utilities are turned off simultaneously. You can do this to your target with just a few phone calls. It goes like this:

"Hello. This is Mr.— of 1234 56th. St. We're going on vacation soon and we'd like to have the power (phone, water, gas) turned off on (date) and turned back on again on (date)."

Timing is very important here. It works best if all the utilities go out on the same day, in order to create the maximum inconvenience and dislocation. He won't be able to use his phone to have the other services turned back on. He'll have to use a pay phone or his neighbor's.

If you had one utility turned off each day, after the second day he would start to put two and two together and check with the other utilities and negate your effort.

The other critical aspect of timing is that the action against his utilities should not conflict with your other plans. His phone must be working in order for him to receive all those calls about the free Green Stamps and other important matters. Ideally, the utilities should be cut off before the other plans take effect. If he gets harassing phone calls before he may be calling the phone company himself to have his phone disconnected or his number changed to an unlisted one. He will then find out that it's already scheduled to be cut off and this may compromise the whole plan. Better to hit your target in his utilities first, before anything else (except for a few magazines that might trickle in early) and then when he gets everything going again, make him wish he'd never had his phone reconnected.

If your target does have his phone eventually disconnected, you must be flexible in your plans. For example, whatever classified ads you have not yet placed will have to be changed to show his address instead. If he's had his number changed to an unlisted one, there are ways of finding it out, as previously discussed.

It's a good idea to spot check his phone while your plan is running in order to determine if his phone is still working.

A quick call from a pay phone will do it. Check about once a day.

If you want to double his trouble, have the utilities turned off at his place of business simultaneously. If he is an employee, call the utility companies in his name but use the title vice-president, even if he is only the janitor. He will not be too happy at his sudden promotion and neither will his boss.

If he has his own business so much the better. He then will be facing double responsibility of getting things going again in both places at once. It is possible that a calm and resourceful person might be able to have all the utilities in both places turned back on by the end of the day but unfortunately for him compound problems usually snowball. By the end of the day the problems caused by the loss of the utilities will be piling up beyond his capacity to handle them. These may include customers who can't reach him, an account lost, production time lost, food spoiling in the freezer, etc.

In any event, if the timing is right, the next day will find the phone ringing off the hook and the target one day closer to an ulcer.

Playing Post Office



Most of us are dependent upon the Post Office in one way or another. We get and send personal mail and business mail. Disruption of this aspect of our daily existence can be very trying.

A word of caution, first. Interfering with the mail, robbing a mailbox, and opening other people's mail are federal crimes. The penalties are severe and the Postal Inspectors are the most efficient law officers in the country. Therefore the

most important thing to remember if you want to get at your target through the mail is: "Don't break the law."

Sending someone magazine subscriptions is one way of getting at him through the use of the mails. Another way is to file phony change of address of cards for him. It is essential to use gloves and to write upside down when you do this, for obvious reasons.

Diverting his mail through a change of address card will be particularly effective if you list an address in another city as his new address. You can have his mail traveling across the country and, considering the state the Post Office is in these days, perhaps getting lost.

The consequences for your target will be more serious than they may seem at first sight. Not only will personal letters be diverted but also business mail, such as bills, bank statements, notices of payments, etc. The effect can be shattering if you do this to your target's business address. For a businessman, the loss of even one day's mail is a serious problem. He may be losing checks from his clients (that hits him in the breadbasket), legal papers, certificates, dividend checks, letters containing vital information such as price quotes, and many other types of mail which are vital to his business. There is even the happy possibility that he might not know that his mail is being diverted for several days. He might just think that nobody wrote to him that day. If he is a business man he will pick up on it much faster but he will still suffer since he has a lot more to lose.

A change of address card is a superb way to use the multiplier effect and make others do your work for you. An interesting variation on this idea, which can get the target's mail utterly lost, is the use of an accomodation address.

An accomodation address, sometimes called a secret address, is a service provided by some enterprising individuals to people who want to receive certain types of mail and yet keep their home addresses secret. These people often want to receive mail under an assumed name, and since the post office requires that you list your real name, the use of a post office box is out.

A careful look in most "swinger's" magazines will disclose some advertisements for these accomodation addresses.

The cost is usually indicated in the ad. There is usually a set fee per piece of mail.

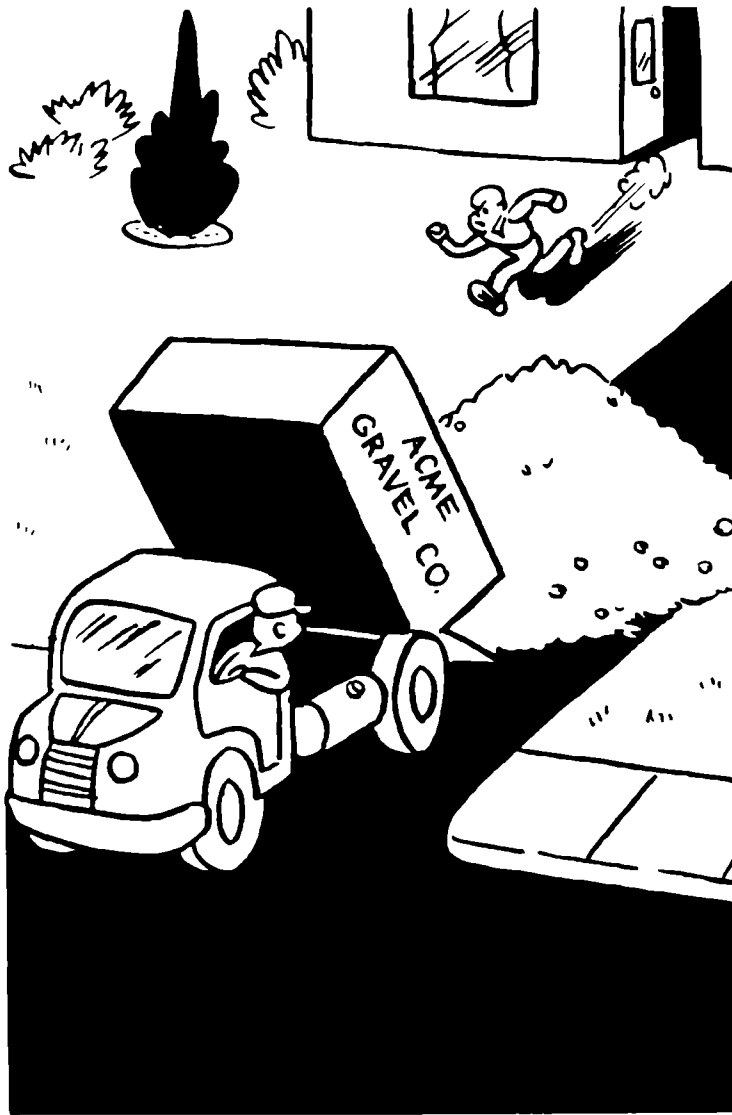
If you file a change of address card to divert your target's mail to an accomodation address, and then arrange with them to remail it to a fictitious address, the mail can become utterly lost. If the fictitious address is in a foreign country and you instruct the accomodation service not to put a return address on the envelope in which they remail it, the chances of the mail either catching up with the addressee or being returned to the sender are infinitesimal.

This will cost you some dollars, particularly if you specify postage to a foreign country. Of course, you won't waste your money on air mail, as it is even better if the mail goes by ship, particularly a slow one.

When you hire the accomodation service in your target's name, it is best to pay them by a bank money order or cashier's check, also made out in his name, to prevent it from ever being traced to you.

If your target leaves town for several days, as discussed in the chapter on Green Stamps, it would be the perfect time to divert his mail. He will probably be so distraught that he will forget to file a hold mail notice with the post office and of course during his absence will be unaware that he is not getting mail. By the time he gets back quite a lot of his mail will be on the slow boat to Capetown.

The Neighbors



How do you mess your target up with his neighbors, just to add a little more misery to his life?

To begin with, when you buy him a subscription to a gay magazine you might put down his next-door neighbor's address instead of his. Even if the magazine comes in a plain brown wrapper the wrapper will sooner or later be torn, either accidentally by the delicate hands of the post office people or on purpose by a curious neighbor. In any event

everybody knows what sort of publications are sent in a plain brown wrapper and when your target gets one handed to him by his neighbors, he knows that they know.

Another way to cause friction between him and his neighbor is to get out the yellow pages and order a truckload of manure or gravel to be dumped on his front lawn, only give his neighbor's address.

In some cities there are real estate agencies which deal mainly with Blacks. One way to exploit this fact is to phone one, impersonating your target, and invite a salesman (he will surely be Black) to come out to discuss selling the house. Give a neighbor's address. This of course only works if your target is Caucasian and lives in a lily white neighborhood. When it works, it works with a bang. The appearance of a Black real estate agent asking for your target will cause a lot of comment. Some people may even confront him, in which case he will naturally deny that he intends to sell his house to Blacks. Nobody will believe him.

Some of the regular magazine subscriptions can be purposely sent to people down the block. They may resent having to deliver his mail to him and in fact may not give him his magazines at all. They may even throw away the bill. If he does not pay a bill which has been sent to him it can reflect upon his credit rating and that can be explosive indeed.

Call boys or girls can be sent to his neighbor's address, as discussed in a previous chapter.

Hitting Below The Belt



In some instances it might seem to be a good idea to try to mess up his marriage. There are several ways to do this and none of them are sure to work. They will at least cause him some embarrassing moments and require him to make explanations to his wife, or her husband, as the case may be.

If your target is male, have a female accomplice whom his wife does not know phone his home and ask for him. If his wife answers, have her stammer that she has the wrong num-

ber and hang up. It might be best to do this when he's not at home but it doesn't really matter, since if he answers your accomplice can hang up without saying a word and try again later.

Sending him a birthday card and signing it with a woman's name and a few words of endearment can cause him an uncomfortable moment if his wife sees it.

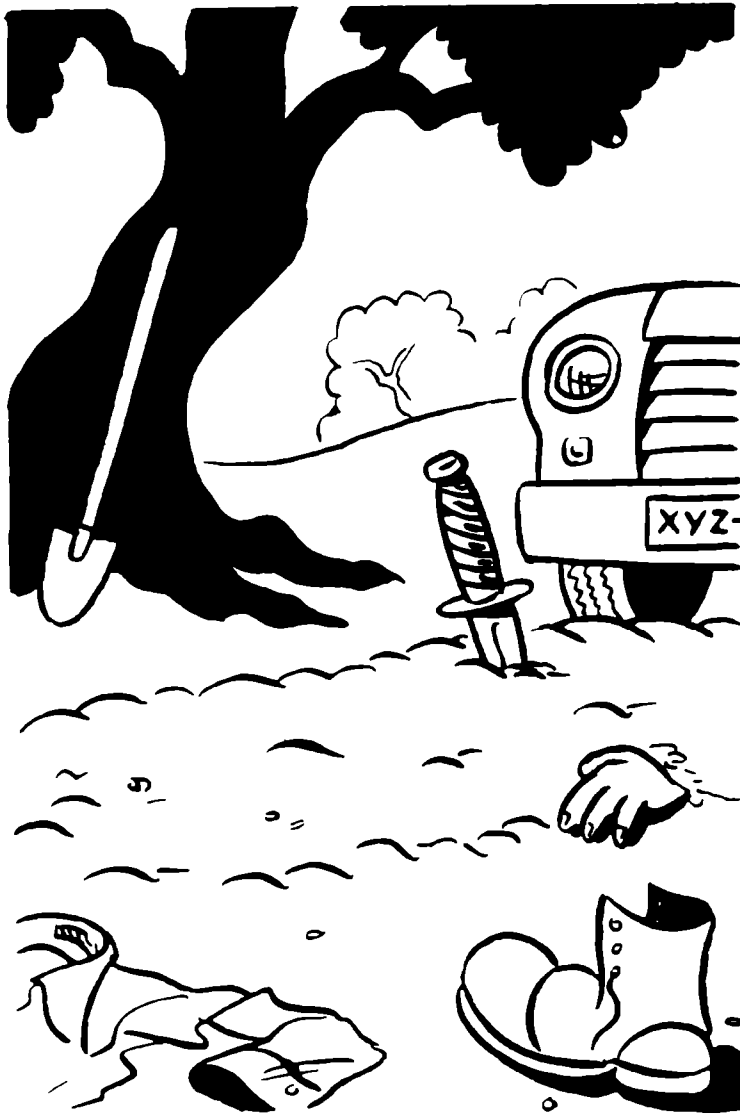
One particularly nasty trick can be made to work if he regularly makes out of town trips. Write him a torrid love letter, seal it in an envelope and address it to him. Tear the seal open. Put the letter, still in its original envelope, in a larger envelope and address it to the postmaster of a city or town your target regularly visits. When the postmaster gets it, he will simply mail the enclosed letter. Time it so that it arrives at his home when he is out of town. Give his wife lots of time to read it and to think about it. A few sentences such as; "You keep telling me I'm better in bed than your wife but is it really true?" will give her a lot to think about.

Of course, a lot depends on how sound their marriage is and how much trust they have in each other. A healthy marriage will survive a lot of stress. Also, there is the ethical question of involving an innocent person, assuming that she is innocent. This does call for a lot of judgement, and if there is any doubt, it is best not to involve his family, particularly if there are children. They are always innocent.

Another useful way to hit your target below the belt is to have a confederate phone his home after he returns from an out of town trip. Your friend poses as the desk clerk of a motel in the city your target has visited and times his call to be sure that the target is not at home. When the wife answers he identifies himself and says something like this:

"After the two of you checked out the maid found some items of personal property while cleaning your room. Would you check to see if you left anything behind so that if they are yours we can send them to you?"

Murder, Inc.



It is a very uncomfortable thing to be suspected of murder, particularly when the police are not sure that the murder was committed on any particular date, so that no alibi is of any use.

You can arrange that situation for your target. The basic plan is this:

Rent a car similar to the one your target owns.

Make, with acrylic or some other glossy paint and a piece

of cardboard or metal, a license plate with his number on it.

Get an accomplice, male or female, someone whom you can trust absolutely and who is completely unknown to your target, his family, and friends.

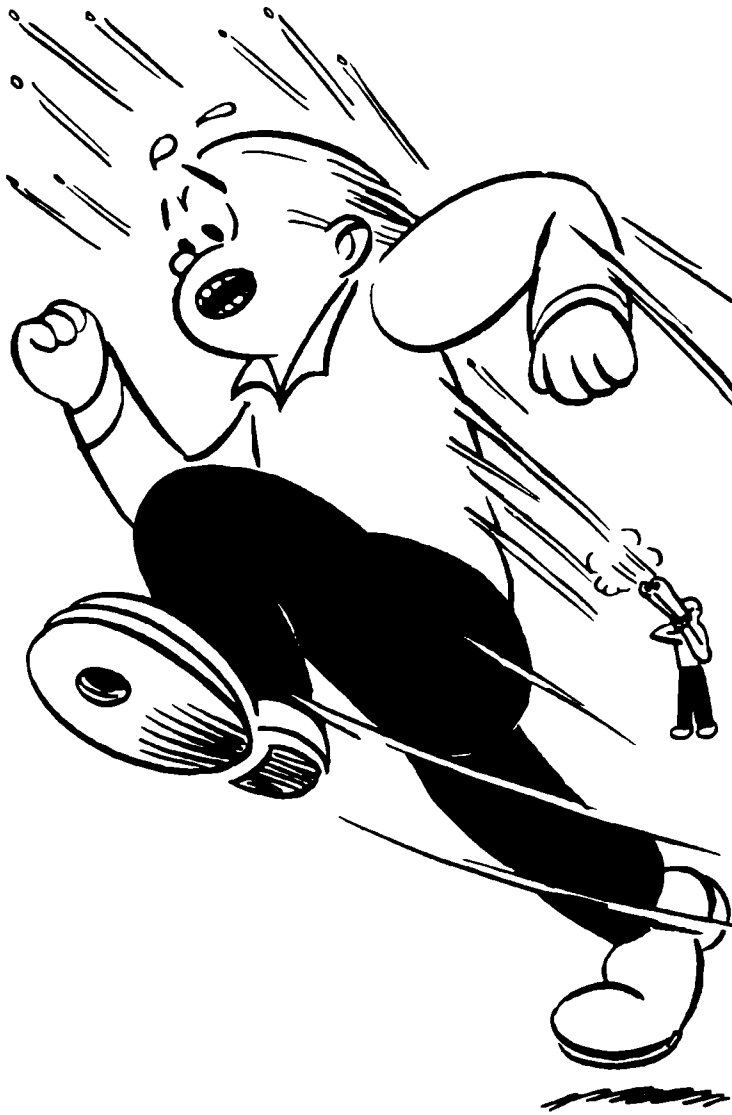
Get a camera and a roll of color film.

One fine day, find a secluded spot out of the city. Pose your accomplice next to the car. Put the fake license plate over the car's real one and take a couple of shots, making sure that the plate number is visible in the picture. Next, pose your friend nude, not necessarily near the car. Next, tie your friend up and take some pictures in various poses. Next, take a large hunting or kitchen knife, break off the blade an inch from the hilt and scotch-tape it to your friend's body so that it looks as if it is sticking out of him or her. Put on a lot of red paint to simulate blood and to hide the tape. Finally dig up a mound of dirt that is about the size and shape of a grave. Put your friend's clothing next to it and take a picture. You can use a bit of imagination to vary the pictures to make them more interesting or incriminating, as the case may be.

Send the roll to be developed. Buy a mailer in a photo store. You don't have to give your real name when you buy a mailer. You fill it out at home, drop it in the mailbox, and the developed pictures will be mailed to the address you put on the tag.

Someone at the film laboratory will see those pictures. With the news media carrying stories recently about mass murderers, sex murderers, etc. it is a better than even chance that they'll call the police. Your target will have a lot of explaining to do.

High Risk Techniques



The following techniques involve moderate to high risk of discovery, as a rule. However, in certain circumstances, it will be possible to use these techniques at minimal risk, if you are careful.

If you have access to narcotics, you might try planting some in your target's car. An anonymous phone call to the police will do the rest.

The risk of a phone call to the police, which will surely

be taped, can be reduced greatly if you use a voice modulator, which in its simplest form is a piece of modelling plastic shaped to fit in the roof of your mouth. It fills in and changes the shape of your upper palate, thereby changing the sound of your voice. It will have no effect in your speech pattern, however. You'll have to be very careful what you say and how you say it, the best way to do this is to speak your message to the police into a tape recorder while assuming a regional or foreign accent. When you get results that you feel are different enough from your usual speech you can go to a phone booth and play the tape to the police. This should eliminate the risk of your voice being recognized by anyone. The voice modulator, combined with the distortion introduced by the tape recorder and the telephone, will make voiceprints useless. If you are going to be making a number of phone calls where your voice might be taped or recognized, a permanent voice modulator can be made using casting resin(epoxy).

Incidentally, the law in some states permits the police to not only impound, but to confiscate an automobile in which narcotics are found. This would add to your target's problems.

Planting contraband in your target's home is another possibility. One way is to have an accomplice gain access to the target's home while posing as a door to door salesman. If he can get in, he has a fifty-fifty chance of planting something.

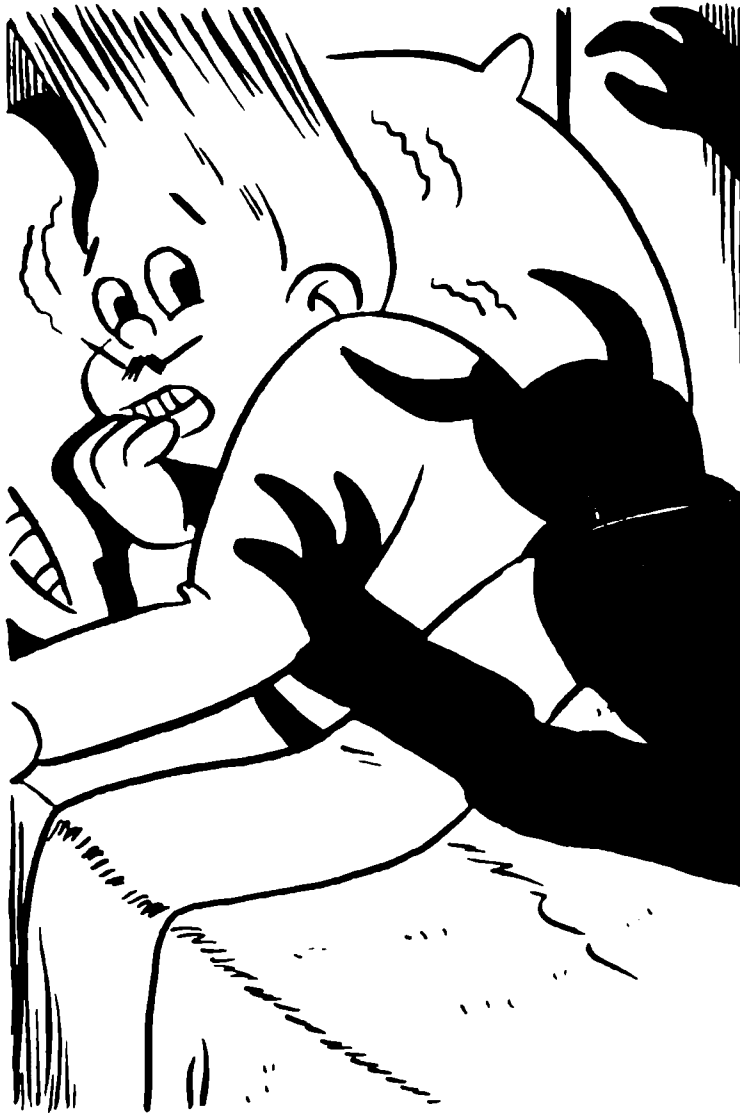
If your target takes trips by air, an accomplice can follow him to the airport and in the crowd get close enough to him to drop a round or two of pistol ammunition in his pocket, or perhaps even a nasty looking switchblade. This is not as risky as it seems at first. If the target notices any furtive movement he'll of course check his wallet. When he finds nothing missing the incident will be closed. At the boarding area security check, however, it will be a different story. Your target will have a lot of explaining to do.

Another annoyance you can lay on for your target depends upon how good is your information about his movements. If you find out that he is booked on a flight,

you can phone the reservation desk and change his reservation to a later flight.

If you want to risk approaching his car and if it is usually left unlocked, you can put a pair of women's panties under the front seat in the hope his wife will find them. You could, for good measure, put a pack of condoms in the glove compartment. Some cigarette butts with lipstick on them in the ashtray will also build the chain of circumstantial evidence.

The Psychological Aspect



In this program of harassment the material losses you cause your target are only a part of the effect. More important is the psychological stresses to which he will be subjected — the climate of anxiety which you will create, the uncertainty as to where you will strike next. The cringing before the next blow is as important as the ton of manure on his front lawn. This introduces a new subtlety into your strategy. Your actions do not have to result in a physical

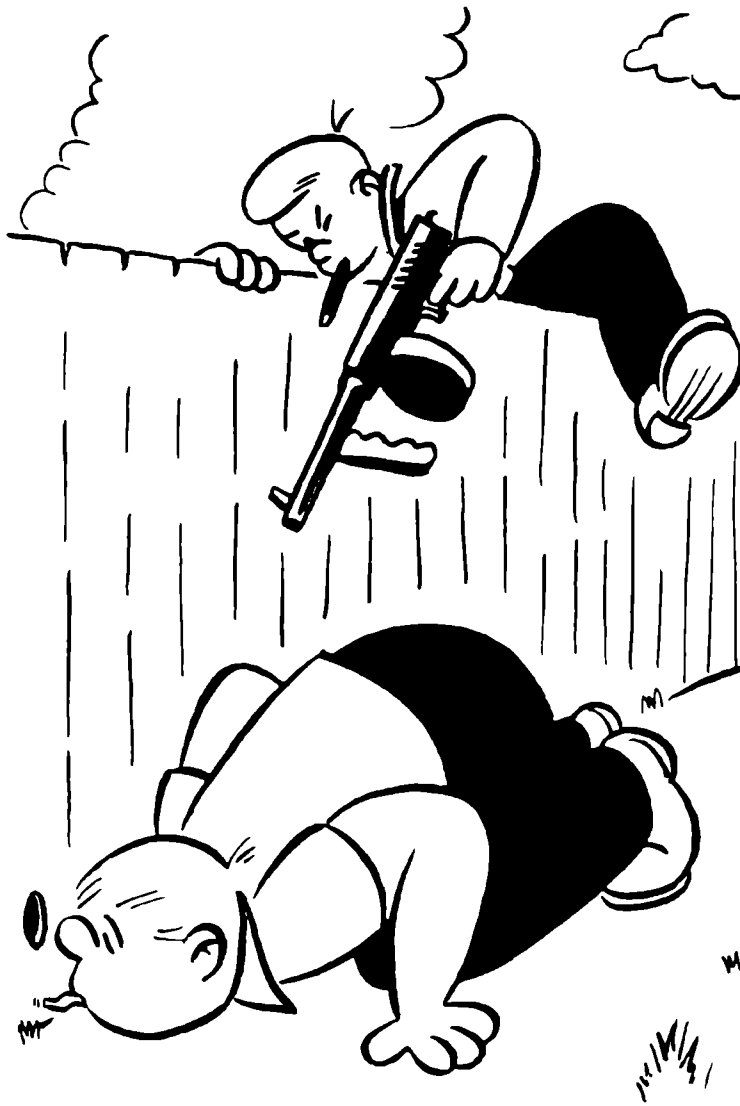
act against your target.

This principle will also save you some time and trouble. Some of the stunts you pull will misfire but you can save the situation anyway. For example if you phone a real estate company to get a salesman to your target's house and you don't sound convincing enough you can, as soon as you sense that the person to whom you're speaking has doubts, ask him to call you back at your target's phone number. If you are trying to get a piano delivered to his house and are not quite making it you can ask for a call back. The threat of getting a piano delivered will shake up your target as much as the sight of the truck outside his front door. You can even plan it that way from the start. You probably realize that it is next to impossible to buy a piano or an organ by phone but knowing this you can nevertheless phone a piano dealer and ask the person who answers where your piano is and when it will be delivered. The person, of course, will be unable to find an order for it. Then you tell him or her that you don't want to tie up the phone while they check into it and ask that they call you back at your target's number as soon as they have the situation straightened out. They will and when your target hears that they are sorry but they can find no record of the order he will be agitated rather than relieved. If anything, he will be wondering what will be delivered to him rather than what will not.

If you call a gravel dealer to order ten tons of gravel to be delivered to your target and are told that no deliveries are made without a deposit you don't have to give up. You can say that the doorbell is ringing and ask that they call you back in a few minutes to give you a price on ten tons of crushed Vermont granite. This should be disturbing enough to your target to make it worthwhile.

In short if a plan misfires don't settle for a total loss. Make sure your target becomes aware of it and let him worry about it.

The Other Side Of The Fence



What can your target do to defend himself against your harassment? What countermeasures can he take? It is important to be aware of the possible countermeasures in order to be able to forestall them and also to protect yourself against discovery and reprisals.

Most of the defenses are obvious. They are simple and forthright reactions to the threats as they appear. The target can be expected to make efforts to have spurious magazine

subscriptions cancelled. He can ask the phone company for help. He can put a tape recorder on his line. As a last resort, he can have his phone changed or disconnected. These will do him little good since you can subscribe him to still more magazines, find out his new phone number, and strike at him through the mail or telegraph. Never under any circumstances call him from a phone that can be traced to you.

He can call the public utilities to have the services restored. He can eventually cancel a change of address card at the local post office but he won't be able to get back the diverted mail if you've handled it right. All of these responses will take up lots of his valuable time. Meanwhile he is vulnerable through other channels. The more you cause to happen to him in a certain period of time, the more difficulty he will have in coping with each threat. You will saturate his defenses.

If you hit him hard enough he may leave his job and move out of town. Life will have become intolerable for him and he will run.

However, it is good to remember that the best defense is a good offense. Your target will constantly be trying to figure out who is doing this to him so that he may retaliate. His retaliation, if he discovers you, may show some sophistication or may be directly violent. It will no doubt be very unpleasant for you and you may have to leave town.

Your target will surely have several suspects in mind. With a little imagination it should be possible to "frame" one of them for your activities. Keep in mind what the consequences may be for the one you frame and only do this if he is as equally deserving as your target.

Trouble With The Law



Two questions which you will be asking yourself all the time you're planning out a program against your target will be: What can the police do to me if they catch me? and "How can I avoid getting caught?"

Most of the actions suggested here are not even illegal. Some are misdemeanors. A couple, such as the one involving narcotics, are definitely felonies in most states. You can be sure that, for the most part, if your target complains to the

police that someone is out to "get" him, they will see the matter as being out of their jurisdiction. After all what can the police do about someone sending a pizza to someone else's house? If the target is an influential person and the actions you take against him are extensive, they may provide him with a bodyguard if he can convince them that there is a threat to his life. This is very unlikely and even if it does happen it will not hamper you at all.

To avoid getting caught, it is necessary only to follow the simple rules of security discussed elsewhere in this manual. Keep in mind that the actions suggested are designed to be untraceable to you and that the police's manpower and resources are very limited. This last point requires some discussion.

Anyone who takes a careful look at a real police department rather than at the TV cops sees that they are overworked, understaffed, and do not solve most of the crimes reported to them. A quick look at the annual FBI report for 1973 shows that the percentage of cases "cleared by arrest" stands at 79 percent for murder and goes down to under 20 percent for lesser crimes such as burglary. The more violent the crime, the more effort is put into solving it: the less violent, the more is the tendency to put it into the file along with all the others and get to it when time permits. There is a tendency in some police departments to persuade suspects to confess to crimes they did not commit, in order to get them off the books and to pad the clearance rate. The police make a "deal". The suspect confesses and in return gets a reduced and perhaps a suspended sentence. This is what often accounts for the spectacle of disproportionately light sentences being handed out for relatively serious crimes.

The police's way of working is also germane to this discussion. Rarely in real life, as contrasted to the TV cops, are the latest advances in science brought to bear upon the solution of the crime. Rarely are entire teams of detectives assigned to a case. The police don't have the manpower to drop everything and intensively investigate any but the most serious crimes. An ordinary murderer will typically have two detectives assigned to seeking him. These two detectives usually have a caseload of other murders upon which they are

working at the same time. Only in the case of a cop-killer or a bizarre sex murder is the full manpower of a police department brought to bear upon the problem. To sum up, your target's complaint, even if accepted by the police, will have to wait its turn at the end of a very long line.

The way in which the police solve cases is important to consider. Most of the time, it is done by informants. These are people who either get paid for their information or are under suspicion themselves and try to make a "deal" with the police in order to obtain lenient treatment. Surveillance, telephone taps and traces, and other exotic means of detection are rarely used because they are expensive, both in equipment and manpower, and because most of the time they cannot be used in court. Consider that it takes at least three men to maintain a round-the-clock tap on a particular telephone and that it takes additional men to trace a particular call, and yet more men to speed to the scene and make an arrest and you can see how much of a problem a telephone surveillance is. For a police department to put that much effort into solving a crime which most likely is only a misdemeanor and which does not involve violence, is unthinkable when you consider the great number of violent crimes being committed very day.

The myth of your handwriting being traced by checking Army records, old school records, etc., collapses when you consider the huge manpower effort that it would involve. In any event, the risk is relatively easy to avoid.

Finally, the probability of the case holding up in court is very, very poor. The FBI statistics show that only a fraction of the crimes cleared by arrests conclude with a successful prosecution. What the police know and what they can prove in court are obviously two different things.

The greatest danger to you is not from the police but from your target. If he comes to suspect you, that suspicion does not have to stand up in court for him to begin his own retaliatory program of harassment. Therefore it is very important to follow the security measures outlined in this manual. Do not have any personal contact with your target: do not talk about your plans to anyone who does not need to know; and allow enough time to elapse in order to give your

target time to forget about you. By following these simple rules you will not be trusting to just luck but will be actively safeguarding your own security.

Your Target Is Vulnerable



The strategy of harassment is built on the premise that most people in twentieth century America are vulnerable to serious disruption of their lives through clever manipulations of society's own institutions. They are vulnerable because everyday life for almost everyone is so complex and because of the interdependency upon which we must rely for even the harest necessities. Everyday life is so delicately balanced for most of us that one thing or another is almost constantly

going wrong even without outside interference. Power failures and subway strikes, delayed or lost mail are so common that we almost consider them as normal occurrences.

Most of the technological aids of the twentieth century are essentially two-sided in that they can be helpful or harmful. A credit card is a great convenience but if you lost yours you may find that someone else has been charging purchases to your account. The telephone, which can be found in almost everyone's home, can be either an extremely useful gadget or an instrument of evil. The same instrument that enables you to speak with someone across the continent can also bring you sales solicitations, crank calls, or wrong number calls at three o'clock in the morning.

Today, when many feel that they live in a country in which people enjoy greater freedom than most other people on earth, we are more and more becoming trapped by the constraints of the twentieth century industrial society. We really have less day-to-day freedom than our grandparents did. We have more obligations to meet, taxes to pay, bills and mortgages to pay; there are more laws which we must obey than ever before. We have to report to jobs that are more complex and require more skills than ever before and yet we are increasingly insecure in those jobs. Our lifestyles are more threatened and we have fewer defenses than ever before.

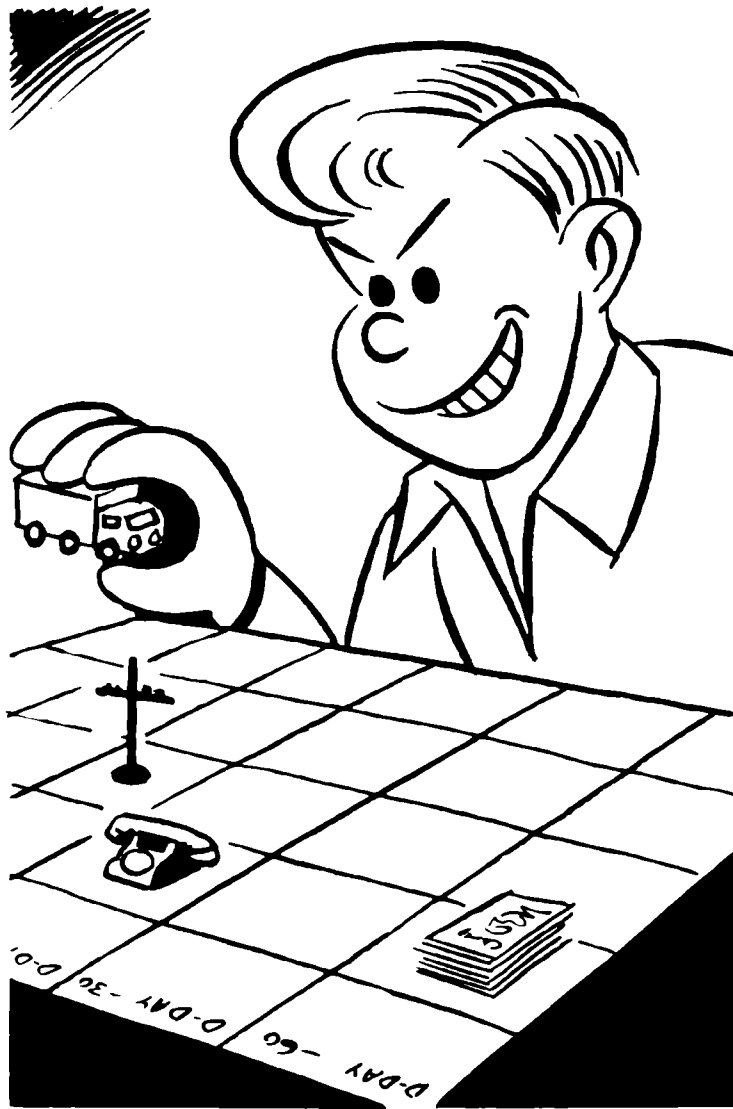
Who is most vulnerable? Everyone except the very poor and very rich — the poor because they have little to lose. They often do not have phones or cars and many do not even have jobs. Few own their own homes. It is next to impossible to have anything delivered to a ghetto address.

The very rich are well insulated from the hassles of the everyday world. They have secretaries to answer their mail and other employees to answer the phone and the doorbell. The usual harassment measures will only fall upon the employees, not the target himself.

Nevertheless, there are still some measures that can be taken against someone who is at one of the extremes of the economic spectrum. The task requires more intelligent planning, better information, and the plan must be tailored to the individual case.

Some of the rich are vulnerable because their activities are publicized. They also do a lot more travelling than most other people. This makes them especially prone to having their reservations cancelled by spurious telegrams, to cite but one possibility.

Planning It Out



As you have seen from the preceeding chapters, everyone is vulnerable to harassment in may ways. It is possible, by careful planning and a moderate amount of effort, to make life absolutely miserable for the one whom you select to harass.

One of the first things you must consider in making your plan is how much are you prepared to spend, in both money and time. The main reason that harassment is not

used much more than it is, is that most people do not go about it systematically and soon find themselves spending so much time, with so little results in proportion, that they soon get tired of it and give up. You can see, however, that you can get big results from little effort if you approach the problem in the right way.

Money is another problem. Most of the techniques outlined here cost very little to apply; the cost of a few phone calls, a couple of dollars in postage. Some can cost a lot more; the cost of renting a car, the service of an accommodation address. Decide in advance what you can afford.

Using the multiplier effect is the key to getting maximum results with a minimum of effort. The second most important thing is to have the various phases of your plan properly coordinated so that they do not conflict with each other and cancel each other out. You can easily see that it makes no sense to have your target's phone service cut off on the same day that your classified ad offering green stamps appears in the paper. Proper timing is all-important.

Lead times are also considered. It takes various amounts of time to put the various phases of your plan into effect. A change of address card takes a couple of days; magazine subscriptions take weeks; a delivery of booze or flowers takes only minutes between the time you place the call and the delivery itself. Lay out these different lead times on your chart. See how they tie in with each other.

Select the date on which you want your program to begin. Call it D-Day. You can see that your preparations may have to begin weeks ahead of D-Day. This is just as well because you don't want to be choked with more work on the last few days before the big day.

You do have a job to keep: you do have personal commitments to attend. You can't tie up your time for several days straight. Proper planning will smooth out your workload.

Selecting the things you want to do to your target is important. Not every phase can be applied to everyone. If your target is unmarried, or does not own a car, it will limit your choices somewhat. Whatever you do, don't try to do

too much at one time. Time is on your side. You can always hit him with more later on.

There is only one exception to this rule. It is usually most effective to cut off his phone, utilities, and mail, both at home and at work, on the same day. That way he will be saturated and will be least able to take effective measures to restore these vital functions. In fact, if his phone and utilities go out on him all at once he probably won't even notice that he's not getting any mail for a day or two, thereby increasing the damage.

There is a sample chart on the next page. It will give you a general idea of how to plan your program.

One final word: keep your plan a secret. Don't tell anyone at all about it unless that person needs to know because he or she is your accomplice in some phase of it. People do gossip. The word might get back to your target and then you will have just as many problems as he does. Remember that he can do the same things to you.

D - DAY

- 60	- 30	- 10	- 5	-0-	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+10	+15	+20	+30	+45
Send in magazine subscrip- tion cards		Phone the utilities to have his services cut off on D-Day.			Phone in the classified ads.			Have his car towed away.						
								Start using job action against him.						
								Call the real estate agents.						
								Have booze and flowers delivered.						
								Send him ten pizzas for supper.						
								Have manure dumped on his lawn.						
								Send a gravel truck to his neighbor's house.						
								Have a Pharmacy deliver aspirin He'll need them!!						
								Send some Chinese food.						

THE "PLAN"

Notes On Sources



Most ideas for harassment come from the yellow pages. This is your best source of ideas in one volume. A little imagination can contribute more.

Another source of ideas is the book "The Compleat Practical Joker" by H. Allen Smith. Yes, that is the way "compleat" is spelled in the title. This book is an exhaustive list of practical jokes which have been pulled successfully by various people and the only drawback is that most of the

stunts listed have to be done in person. They require some personal contact and this is exactly what you must avoid. With a little imagination some of the ideas can be adapted to work by remote control and given a vicious twist — it's up to you.

There are several books on the Watergate affair which touch upon the activities of Donald Segretti, the principal character in the harassment program directed against the Democratic candidates. The one by Chester, MacCrystal, Aris, and Shawcross is an excellent one.

The classified ads in *Mechanix Illustrated*, *Popular Science*, *Popular Mechanics*, and various men's magazines are a gold mine of accomodation address services. There are many, many, of them all over the country and if you want to spend the money the prospect of routing your target's mail through several of them is very attractive. It makes the mail really untraceable and eliminates any chance of a cablegram to the Capetown postal authorities getting the mail back.